



Insight

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Giving thanks to INSCOM's own

Nearly 50 years ago, President Dwight Eisenhower proclaimed Thanksgiving as a time when Americans should celebrate "the plentiful yield of our soil ... the preservation of those ideals of liberty and justice that form the basis of our national life, and the hope of international peace."

Today, Thanksgiving remains the holiday in which Americans gather and give thanks for their family, friends, and the gift of another prosperous year. However, as the holiday season is upon us, it may be difficult to fully appreciate our blessings as many of our fellow service members, who are deployed throughout the world, continue to defend our nation and the world against terrorism. Let's not forget those in hospitals recovering from wounds or those that have fought proudly and died honorably protecting our freedoms while instilling those same freedoms and rights in Afghanistan and Iraq.

It is with heavy hearts that INSCOM service members and civilians will gather around the dinner table, surrounded by loved ones, while their brothers and sisters-at-arms are thousands of miles from home in harm's way helping nations

rebuild and giving people opportunities that did not exist previously.

As you celebrate Thanksgiving, I encourage you to take a moment and honor the service members who remain steadfast and pray for the families of those who have lost loved ones this year. Their families are still healing, wondering how they are going to continue, wondering when the hurting is going to stop. They need your prayers and support now more than ever.

I also remind each of you that while maintaining a sound safety program on the battlefield is paramount to reducing risks and saving lives, safety awareness also needs to be emphasized on the home front. I charge every leader, military or civilian, throughout the command to remind their personnel to be smart and stay safe during the extended, holiday weekend. Some may consider it redundant, maybe even adolescent to remind your staff not to drink and drive; drive within the speed limit; do not get behind the wheel if you are tired; and don't travel during bad weather – it's not.

Hundreds of people die or are injured during Thanksgiving weekend annually. Remember,



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if you drink to always use a designated driver, call a taxi or contact your chain of command for help. Giving your staff a five-minute brief before they rush out of the door could save their lives or the lives of their loved ones.

On behalf of the entire command group, we wish you a joyous Thanksgiving. I want to personally thank you for your support, hard work, and significant contributions. As I depart INSCOM, I want to say that it has been an honor and privilege to be part of this exceptional organization.

Again, let us remember our fallen soldiers and their families and give thanks for their efforts in maintaining not only our freedom but the freedoms of people everywhere.

A thanksgiving day message

Thanksgiving is traditionally a time for us to gather with our families and give thanks for our many blessings. It offers us an occasion to pause and reflect upon both personal blessings and the blessings of freedom and opportunity that we share as a nation.

Under normal circumstances, Thanksgiving affords Soldiers an important opportunity to pause and enjoy a day of rest, relaxation, and fellowship. But, this third year of war is not normal – thou-

sands of our comrades in arms are deployed around the world far from family and friends. As we celebrate this holiday, take a moment to offer special thanks for the selfless sacrifice of America's Armed Forces now engaged directly in support of the global war on terrorism.

I am extremely proud of the daily contributions made by all members of the INSCOM workforce. Our Soldiers, civilians and contractors go in harm's way without complaint to success-



DA photo

fully execute the toughest tasks. We couldn't ask for a finer force.

For those of us who have the chance to spend this Thanksgivings with family and friends, remember that the roads will be especially dangerous. Carry your risk assessment to your holiday travels. Don't drink and drive; wear seatbelts; drive defensively; check your vehicle out before hitting the road. We can't afford to lose a single unit member.

On behalf of the entire INSCOM command group, we wish you and your families a bountiful, joyous and blessed Thanksgiving.

Maj. Gen. John F. Kimmons



A Family Affair

501st MI Brigade Commander Col. Mary A. Legere and Lt. Col. Paul Legere take a picture together at the 2003 MI Ball at the Hyatt Hotel in Seoul, South Korea.

courtesy photo

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Chief, Public Affairs Office.....Deborah Y. Parker
Editor.....Brian Murphy
Graphic Designer.....James L. Hubbard

704th Soldier aims 'fore' greatness

By Stephanie J. Santos
Fort Meade SoundOFF!

For Spc. Patrick Hawthorne, golf is a passion. It is not merely a Saturday afternoon pastime, but a sport that involves mental preparation and concise motion. It brings forth a desire to always play at the top of his game. It is this drive that led him to compete in the All Army Golf Trials, and later make the All Army Golf Team.

"You want to go out to the course and have fun, but you also need to have a set goal and stay focused," says the Headquarters Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade Soldier. "If you really and truly want to be good, you have to eat, sleep and breathe it (golf). You have to make it a part of your lifestyle," he said.

And for as long as Hawthorne can remember, golf has always been an integral part of his lifestyle. He recalls his father taking him out to play golf every weekend and most week nights. While most of his peers were out getting into mischief, for him, there was no question as to how his time would be spent - on the golf course.

But his dedication to the sport paid off. Hawthorne went on to win state championships in high school and was awarded a four-year scholarship to St. Louis University. After college, he went on to join the U.S. Army and before long he was back on the golf course again, only this time at Fort Meade.

So how did this Trenton, Ill. native get selected for one of the most prestigious competitions in the military?

While carrying a handicap of even par or better, Hawthorne said he first compiled a resume based on past tournament experience at Fort Meade and other military installations. He listed his golf scores, handicap and profile achievements. Also included were letters of recommendation. Once everything was submitted to officials in Alexandria, Va., the 26-year-old Soldier says there was only one thing left to do ... wait.

After three months of suspense, Hawthorne received word in October that he had indeed



courtesy photo

Spc. Patrick Hawthorne (left), of the 704th MI Brigade, was selected as a member of the All Army Golf Team.

been selected to compete in the All Army Golf Trials - a four-day competition in Fort Jackson, S.C. "I was mentally prepared to compete in the trials, and I knew that if I played well that I was going to make the team," he said.

Upon arrival at Fort Jackson, Hawthorne, along with 20 other players, went through nearly three consecutive days of familiarizing themselves with the course and practicing before the actual competition.

When the official 72-hole tournament began, Hawthorne was ready, and his scores reflected it; with a score of 72 in the first round, 75 in the second round, 78 in the third round, and 71, in the 4th and final round. Thus, giving him a coveted third place slot, and becoming one of five other players to make the All Army Golf Team.

Hawthorne said that putting himself in the correct frame of mind, prior to the trials is what led him to victory. "You have to be on top of your game.

Your mind has to work perfectly with your body. When I stepped up to tee, I was already thinking about how I was going to win," he said.

Friends and colleagues who know Hawthorne's game were not at all surprised by his selection. "He is the first Army person that I've seen in awhile to make it this far in the

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competition,” said Fred Heuvel, director of The Courses at Fort Meade. “He’s a very good player ... not a whole lot of errors. He is consistent and focused.”

Although he was excited about making the All Army Golf Team, Hawthorne said he cannot take all of the credit, and thanked his military command and his wife, Jenelle, for her endless support.

“It was Jenelle who got me back into the game. I had taken a break from golf, but my competitive nature was starting to come out at home,” he said.

“She basically told me it was time to get back on the course.”

After being officially inducted into the All Army Golf Team, and participating in an awards ceremony at Fort Jackson, things moved quickly, according to Hawthorne. In a matter of hours team members were headed off to the next competition-The Interservice Golf Tournament, held in Millington, Tenn.

However, this time around, the competition fared differently. Hawthorne said he did not feel that same adrenaline rush that he felt during All Army Golf Trials. “I did not have the same focus ... I did not play as well as I know I can. The ball

just would not go in the hole,” said Hawthorne.

His scores during this tournament granted him 8th place, just missing the chance to make it to the All World Military Golf Tournament by one position.

But, we have not seen the last swing from this avid player who describes himself as getting “instantly energized” when it comes to golf.

With continued support from his command, Hawthorne already has his sights set on competing in next year’s All Army Golf Trials and hopes to qualify for the U.S. Amateur, the largest amateur tournament in the world.

“I didn’t know what to expect in the competition this time around,” he said.

“I am going to reassess my goals and make new ones. I hope to come back next year and make a name for myself in the Maryland and Washington, D.C. area.”

“If you really and truly want to be good, you have to eat, sleep and breathe it (golf). You have to make it a part of your lifestyle.”

*Spc. Patrick Hawthorne,
704th MI Brigade*



Save the best for last

Capt. Leslie Gorman (left), 201st Military Intelligence Battalion, 513th MI Brigade, shows how to evaluate a casualty and decide which Soldier should be loaded on the Medevac first during a training exercise.

photo by Spc. Leslie Pearson

INSCOM civilian shows no mercy

by Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th MI Group

Leah Upshaw, chief information officer and contract oversight officer for the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, has no problem holding her own on the racquetball court.

While the mother of three has enjoyed playing the sport for about 17 years, it was seizing the Women's A division title at the 2001 Georgia State Championships in Atlanta that wet her appetite for tournament competition. Since then, she's been winning pretty much every competition she enters.

"Racquetball is a great way to burn off energy, either positive or negative! When I come off the court, no matter how well I've played, I always feel great about the work out I just got," she said. "It was the single reason I started to play and it is



courtesy photo

Leah Upshaw, chief information officer and contract oversight officer for the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, practices racquetball during her free time.

still the number one reason I continue."

Shortly after winning the gold in the state championships, Upshaw participated in the U.S. Racquetball Association Regional Championships where she won first place in both divisions and qualified to compete in the National Championships. By this time, she was the United States Racquetball Association's number five ranking player in the nation in Women's A and the number one player in the Women's 35 and Over Division.

As an Air Force Reservist, Upshaw has represented the Air Force at the US Nationals, the highest level tournament in racquetball, and at the All Army Invitational. Without missing a beat, she also won the 2002 Women's Open in Atlanta, Ga.

Upshaw hasn't diverted from the high goals she's set for herself in the past; she will be competing at the US Open, a national level competition scheduled to be held in Memphis, Tenn. later this month. Additionally, she hopes to compete in a tournament co-sponsored by the Lady's Professional Racquetball and the US Armed Forces Invitational which will be in Hawaii.

"This may or may not happen," said Upshaw. "As far as my command and the Air Force reserves are concerned, they're ready to support it but we found out the Air Force has taken racquetball off their list of sponsored activities this year."



courtesy photo

Leah Upshaw battles Derek Robinson, who is ranked in the top 10 on the men's pro tour.

"Besides the US Nationals, this is one of the biggest tournaments for racquetball," she said. "It draws in the professional racquetball players in both the men's and the women's divisions. It's a really fun, exciting, high level racquetball tournament they have once a year."

Seeing someone play who she thinks is pretty good and then beating them in a match is a real motivation to keep her competing, she said.

"Of course sometimes you have to work up to that, to get to that next level and be competitive. But that's the personal challenge I take to myself. Practicing can be downright boring for me, but I've learned to practice as I play. I work on my game no matter what level of player I am up against so that when I make it to the next tournament, I might be a little bit more consistent with my shots or have a new or improved serve that just might give me an edge over my opponent," said Upshaw.